

- 43 -

We claim:

1. A method to treat a subject afflicted with macular edema (ME), said method comprising

5 administering an effective amount of a photosensitizer (PS) to said subject, and irradiating said subject's macula with light having a wavelength absorbed by said PS.

10 2. The method of claim 1 wherein irradiating of said macula comprises irradiating multiple spots arranged in a grid pattern.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein said spots are about 25 to about 500 microns in diameter and are spaced about 0.5 to about 2.0 spot diameters apart.

15 4. The method of claim 1 wherein irradiating of said macula comprises irradiating with a spot size from 100 to 8000 microns or more in diameter.

20 5. The method of claim 1 wherein said administering is systemic.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein said administering is local.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the photosensitizer is a green porphyrin.

25 8. The method of claim 7 wherein the photosensitizer is verteporfin.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein the light is administered from a laser.

- 44 -

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the light is administered at a dosage of between about 1 and about 50 J/cm².
11. The method of claim 10 wherein the light is administered at a dosage in the range of about 5 to about 30 J/cm².
12. The method of claim 1 wherein visual acuity of the subject is improved.
13. The method of claim 1 wherein said subject is human.
14. The method of claim 1 wherein both eyes of said subject are irradiated.
15. A method to reduce the volume of interstitial fluid in the eye of a subject having macular edema, said method comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of a photosensitizer (PS) to said subject, irradiating the macula of said subject with light having a wavelength absorbed by said PS.
16. The method of claim 15 wherein said subject is human.
17. The method of claim 15 wherein both eyes of said subject are irradiated.
18. The method of claim 15 wherein the photosensitizer is a green porphyrin.
19. The method of claim 18 wherein the photosensitizer is verteporfin.
20. The method of claim 15 wherein the light is administered from a laser.

- 45 -

21. The method of claim 20, wherein the light is administered at a dosage of between about 1 and about 50 J/cm².

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22. The method of claim 21 wherein the light is administered at a dosage in the range of about 5 to about 30 J/cm².

23. The method of claim 15 wherein visual acuity of the subject is improved.

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